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From Anita L. Meiklejohn, Ph.D.

Re USSN 09/673,605 – O'Toole et al.  
Our Ref.: 00246-266US1

Number of pages  
including this page 9

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : George A. O'Toole et al. Art Unit : 1645  
Serial No. : 09/673,605 Examiner : V. Ford  
Filed : December 31, 2001  
Title : REGULATION OF BIOFILM FORMATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUBMISSION OF COPY OF DECEMBER 20, 2000 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

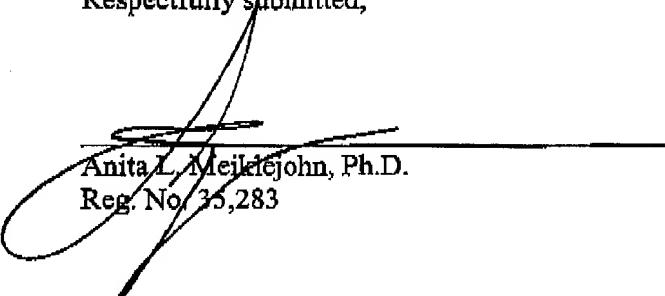
As discussed with Examiner Ford, enclosed is a copy of the December 20, 2000 Preliminary Amendment and a copy of a postcard stamped by the USPTO verifying that the Preliminary Amendment and a check for \$332.00 was received on December 27, 2000.

Applicants request that the October 2, 2003 Restriction Requirement, which did not take into account the claims in the December 20, 2000 Preliminary Amendment, be withdrawn and a new Restriction Requirement be issued.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6 JAN 2004

  
Anita L. Meiklejohn, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 35,283

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NO. 8983 P. 3

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PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER: 00246 / 505003

The U.S. PTO date stamp sets forth the date of receipt of:

Applicant/Patentee: George O'Toole et al.

Serial/Patent Number: 09/673,605

Filed/Issued: October 17, 2000

Title: REGULATION OF BIOFILM FORMATION



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Susan M. Barry

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George O'Toole et al.

Art Unit: Not yet Assigned

Serial No.: 09/673,605

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

Filed: October 17, 2000

Title: REGULATION OF BIOFILM FORMATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

**COPY**

Please amend claims 23, 36, and 38 as follows.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 40 [22], wherein *sad* polypeptide is encoded by a *Pseudomonas fluorescens sad* gene.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein at least 5% [,10%, 25%, 50%,